



Aug. 21, 2012

Measures taken to protect NRB indoor air quality

The construction of temporary walls inside the Natural Resources Building (NRB) on floors 2 through 6 is nearly complete. Once a wall is constructed, the general contractor attaches plastic sheeting on the side of the wall facing the construction area.

The wall and plastic sheeting are being installed to prevent dust and mold spores from entering into tenant work areas.

The industrial hygienist on the project will inspect each wall to certify that it is airtight. Only then can the general contractor begin to remove windows and exterior cladding from the south side of the building.

The final interior wall work and the start of exterior demolition are scheduled to begin later this week.

A number of other steps are being taken to keep mold spores and dust from entering tenant work areas. Screens have been placed over the air intakes for the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system at NRB and OB2.

Enterprise Services has made adjustments to the HVAC system in NRB so that air is forced out of the building through open doors and cracks around windows and door seals. For security reasons, tenants are asked to be sure that doors completely close when they exit the building.

The industrial hygienist will be on site throughout the first week of window and cladding removal to ensure that the plastic sheeting on the interior wall isn't accidentally breached during the construction work. The general contractor will also inspect the interior wall twice each day throughout the project.

The industrial hygienist will periodically take air and surface samples inside the building to confirm that mold isn't getting into work areas.

The window and cladding removal could increase the amount of construction debris around the south side of the building. The general contractor's crew is cleaning up the work site at the end of each day, but some small pieces of debris may still be present.

Other project news

- Scaffolding will be erected above the main entrance to the rotunda on during the week of Aug. 20, requiring the brief closure of the two hinged doors there but not the revolving doors. This work should not impact tenants.
- Scaffolding and roofing material were lifted by crane on to the NRB roof on Aug. 18. Erection of scaffolding on the roof is underway. Roof repairs and replacement will begin this week.

- The bicycle rack that was located near the rotunda entrance has been moved to the west end of the building. Do not chain bicycles to the temporary cyclone fencing.

For more information

Darlana Heglund, DES Facilities Division
(360) 407-9324, darlena.heglund@des.wa.gov

Jim Erskine, DES Communications
(360) 407-9212, jim.erskine@des.wa.gov

www.des.wa.gov